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June 14, 2002

Mr. Jim Ballough
Director, Flight Standards Service – AFS-1
Federal Aviation Administration
Attn: Rules Docket, AGC-200
Regulation Division
800 Independence Avenue, SW.
Washington, DC 20591

FAA-02-12728-1

Dear Mr. Ballough:

The National Business Aviation Association, Inc. (NBAA) hereby petitions for an extension of Exemption No. 1637, as amended by Exemption 1637U, for a period of 24 months or until such time as the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) industry regulatory action to amend 14 CFR Part 91, subpart F is completed. Exemption 1637 was granted on September 12, 1972 and was last amended by Exemption 1637U on September 30, 2000. Under Exemption No. 1637 the NBAA is granted an exemption from 14 CFR 91.409(a) and 91.501(a) to permit NBAA members to operate small civil airplanes and helicopters of U.S. registry under the operating rules of 14 CFR 91.503 through 91.535 and to select and use an inspection program described in 14 CFR 91.409(f). In addition, helicopter operations are not required to comply with the minimum safe altitude rules of 14 CFR 91.515(a), provided these operations comply with the minimum safe altitude requirements of 14 CFR 91.119.

The original justification for this exemption has been confirmed by 30 years of experience. Petitioner is not aware of any incidents or accidents attributable to faulty maintenance or inspection practices involving aircraft operated under this exemption. There is evidence that this exemption has contributed materially to the increased safety of small airplane and helicopter operations by permitting utilization of continuous inspection procedures.

Please contact me if I can assist you in the timely processing of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Elias Cotti

Director, Technical Operations

Enclosure

Grant of Exemption